

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, ETRD, CA

SUBJECT: COMPUTER/COMMUNICATIONS AND OFFSET CONSULTATION
REQUESTS

REF: STATE 268514

1. COMPUTER AND OFFSET CONSULTATIONS ARE BEING DEALT
WITH IN TWO DIFFERENT BUREAUCRATIC SETTINGS IN GOC
AND EVEN THOUGH EXTAFF IS COORDINATING BOTH IT APPEARS
UNLIKELY THAT BACK TO BACK DATES WILL BE POSSIBLE.

2. MACARTHUR, TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY
DIV., EXTAFF, HAS ADVISED THAT JANUARY 9 AND 10 ARE
UNSUITABLE FOR GOC ON COMPUTER QUESTIONS AND HE HAS
NOW PROPOSED JANUARY 24. RESERVATIONS MADE FOR SPACE
IN GOC CONFERENCE CENTER IN DOWNTOWN OTTAWA. HE ALSO
INDICATED THAT IF JANUARY 24 NOT ACCEPTABLE TO US
AND WE PROPOSE AN ALTERNATE HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO
REACT TO SUCH PROPOSAL UNTIL THE WEEK OF JANUARY 13
SINCE MANY OF THE GOC PARTICIPANTS WILL NOT BE
AVAILABLE UNTIL THEN.

3. WEYNEROWSKI, COMMERCIAL POLICY DIV., EXTAFF
LIKewise HAS ADVISED THAT JANUARY 9 AND 10 DATES
ARE UNSUITABLE FOR THE OFFSET CONSULTATIONS, BUT
THAT HE WAS PRESENTLY UNABLE TO SUGGEST AN ALTERNATIVE

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OTHER THAN THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE SOMEWHAT LATER THAN

JANUARY 24.

4. MACARTHUR FURTHER INDICATED THAT PAMELA MCDUGALL, DIRECTOR GENERAL, BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS, EXTAFF, WOULD BE CHAIRMAN OF GOC DELEGATION ON COMPUTER COMMUNICATIONS AND SUGGESTED AN AGENDA COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS MIGHT BE DESIREABLE WITH THE ORDER TO BE DETERMINED LATER.

A. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY CANADIAN CHAIRMAN.

B. OVERVIEW OF THE GREEN PAPER BY DR. HANS VON BAEYER, CHAIRMAN, COMPUTER/COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARIAT, DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

C. QUESTIONS BY USDEL ON GREEN PAPER AND RESPONSES BY CANDEL.

D. DISCUSSION OF CANADIAN QUESTIONS REGARDING US POLICIES.

E. DISCUSSION OF US QUESTIONS REGARDING CANADIAN POLICIES.

5. MACARTHUR ALSO QUERIED TCO REGARDING COMPOSITION OF USDEL BEYOND GLITMAN, FOX AND JOYCE. SPECIFICALLY, HE WAS ANXIOUS THAT WE SHOULD INCLUDE SOME TECHNICAL (I.E., TELECOMMUNICATIONS) PEOPLE IN ADDITION TO TRADE EXPERTS AND POINTED OUT THAT GIVEN THE COMPLEXITIES OF THIS FIELD THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE INTERPLAY BETWEEN TRADE/INVESTMENT AND MORE TECHNICAL COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES. TCO STATED THAT JOYCE IS FULLY QUALIFIED TO DISCUSS TELECOMMUNICATIONS ISSUES BUT ALSO REITERATED USG VIEW THAT THESE ISSUES COULD BEST BE DISCUSSED IN DEPTH LATER IN WASHINGTON. MACARTHUR, HOWEVER, EMPHASIZED AGAIN THAT U.S. HAD AGREED TO TALK ABOUT CONCERNS OF BOTH SIDES AT THIS MEETING AND HOPED WE WOULD BE STAFFED ACCORDINGLY. HE ALSO STATED THAT GOC COULD NOT DEFINITELY AGREE TO SUBSEQUENT MEETING AT THIS TIME BUT INDICATED THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COULD BE DISCUSSED AT THE JANUARY SESSION. GOC FELT THIS MEETING SHOULD PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CANADIANS TO EXPLORE THEIR CONCERNS IN SUFFICIENT DEPTH WITH US OFFICIALS ADEQUATELY CONVERSANT WITH THE SUBJECT.

6. COMMENT; WITH RESPECT TO AGENDA ITEMS INDICATED PARA. 4 EMBASSY RECOMMENDS WE MAINTAIN PROPOSED

WORDING BUT SEEK REVERSAL ITMES D AND E.

7. PLEASE ADVISE FULL COMPOSITION OF USDEL
ASAP.
PORTER

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